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US 4708369 A

(58) Field of search
UK CL (Edition J) B5N, B6A, B8F
INT CL* B32B, B42D

(54) Postcards having peelable layers

(57) This postcard includes a postcard material 10 and a sticking material 12 covering at least part of the postcard material, and the sticking material in turn, includes a base material 14 opaque at least partly, an inter-layer peel ply 18 formed on the principal surface of the base material, a synthetic resin layer 20 transparent at least partly formed on the principal surface of the inter-layer peel ply and an adhesive layer 22 formed on the principal surface of the synthetic resin layer being transparent in the part corresponding to the transparent part of the synthetic resin layer. With this postcard the base material of the sticking material can be easily peeled off the synthetic resin layer in the part where the inter-layer peel ply is formed. And the secret information shown on the postcard material is visible through the transparent synthetic resin layer when the base material is peeled off the synthetic resin layer.

FIG. 1B

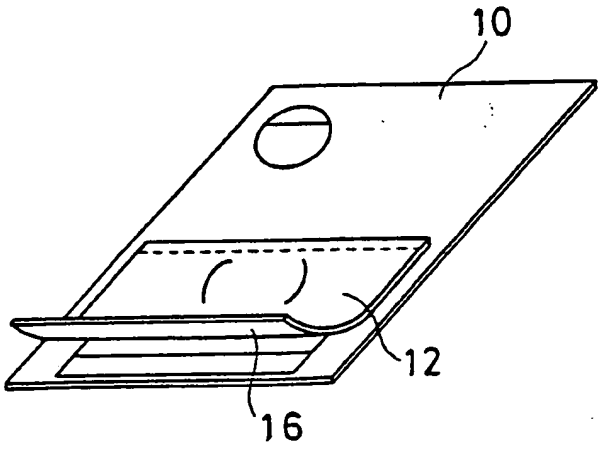

FIG. 2A

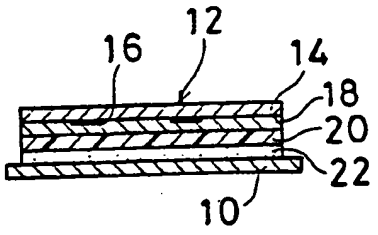

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FIG. 1A

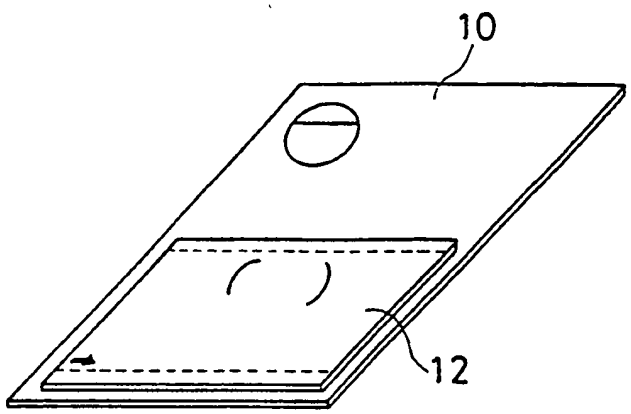


FIG. 1B

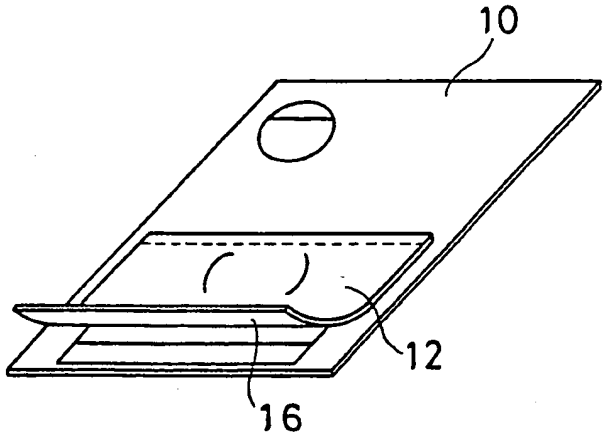


FIG. 2A

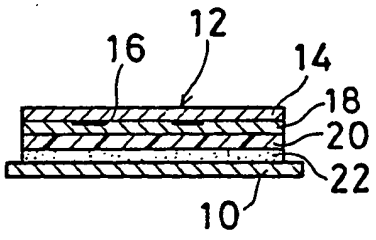


FIG. 2B

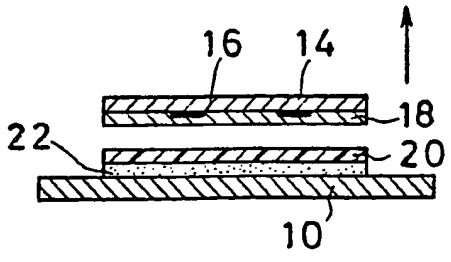


FIG. 3

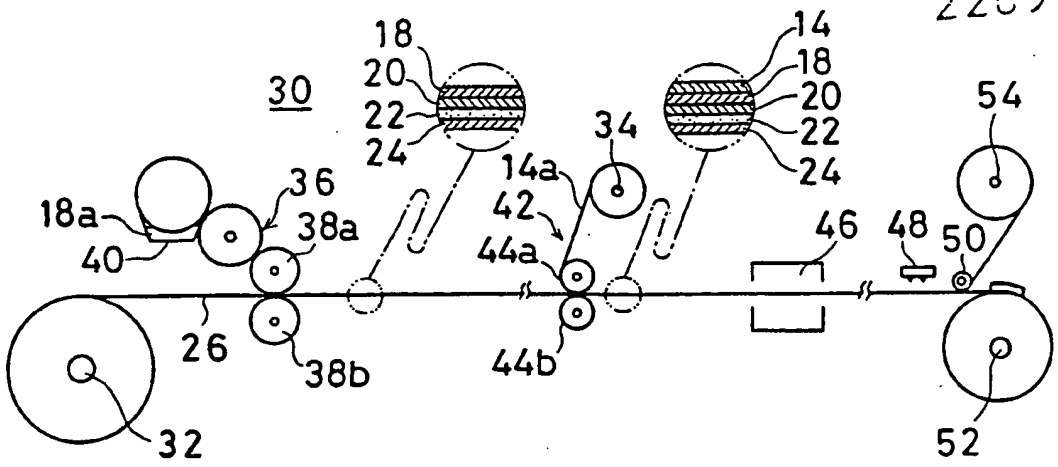


FIG. 4

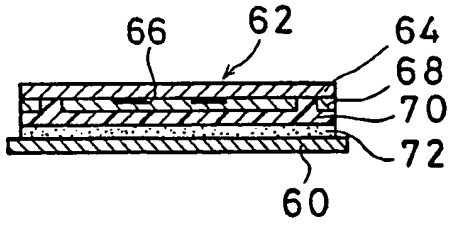


FIG. 5

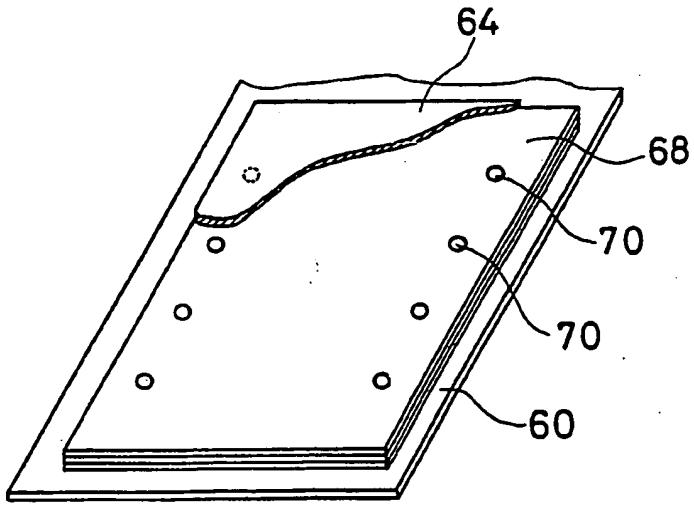


FIG. 6

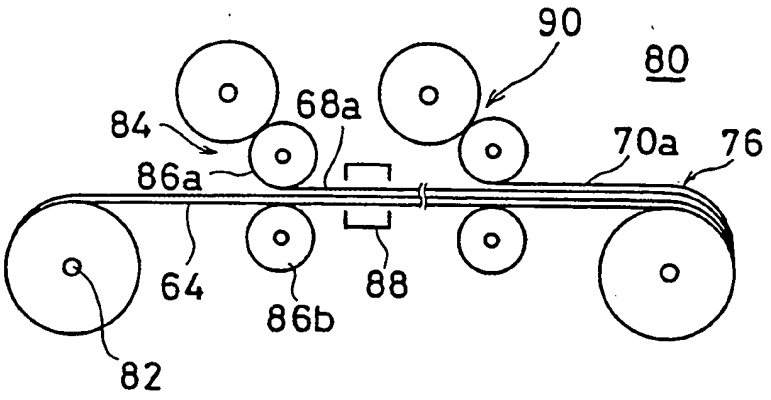

90
80
84
68a
70a
76
86a
64
86b
88
82

FIG. 7

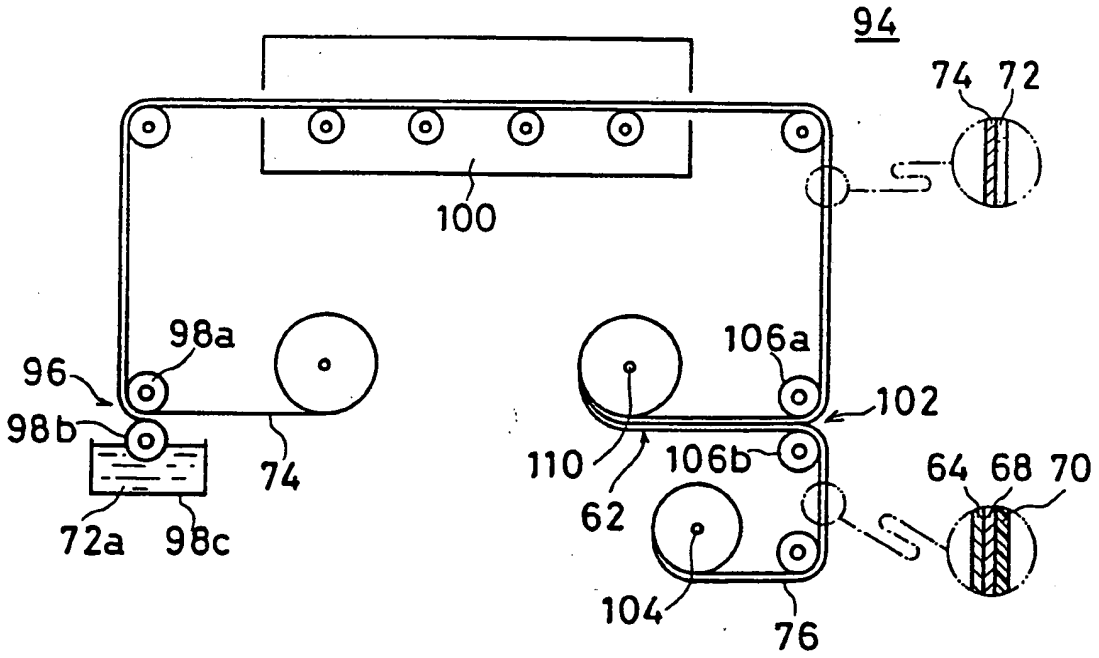

94
74
72
100
98a
106a
96
102
98b
74
110
106b
64
68
70
62
72a
98c
104
76

FIG. 8A

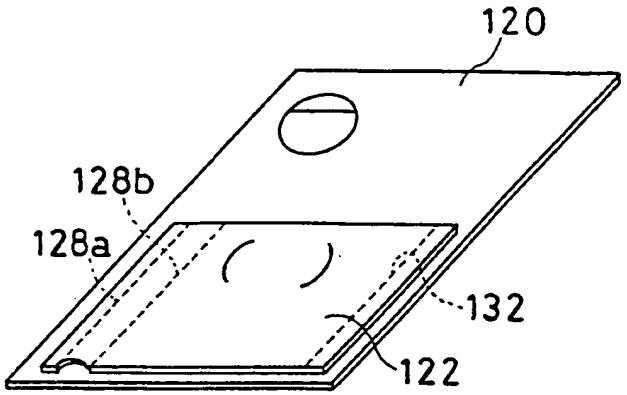


FIG. 8B

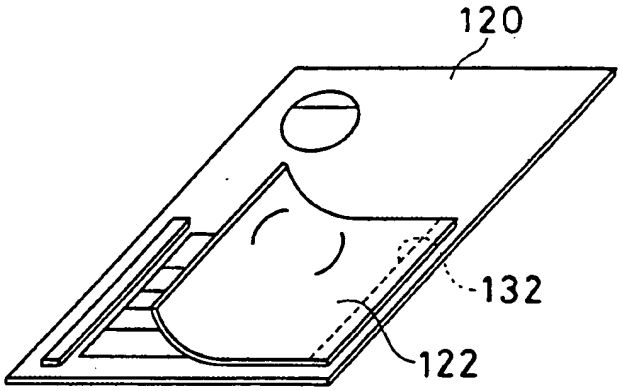


FIG. 9A

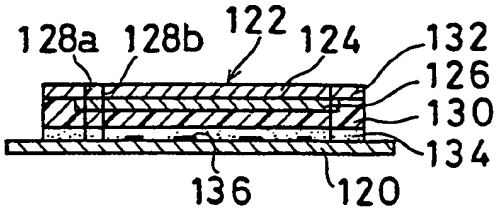


FIG. 9B

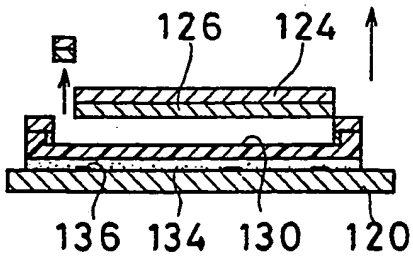


FIG.10

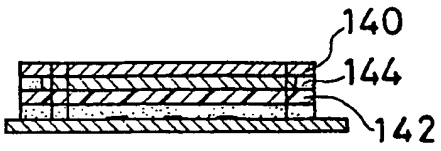


FIG.11

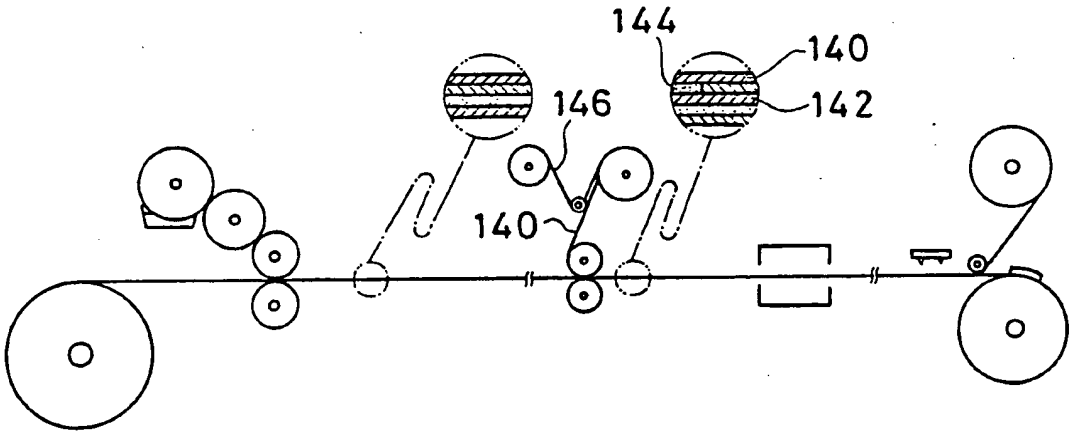


FIG.12

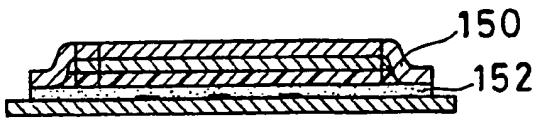


FIG.13

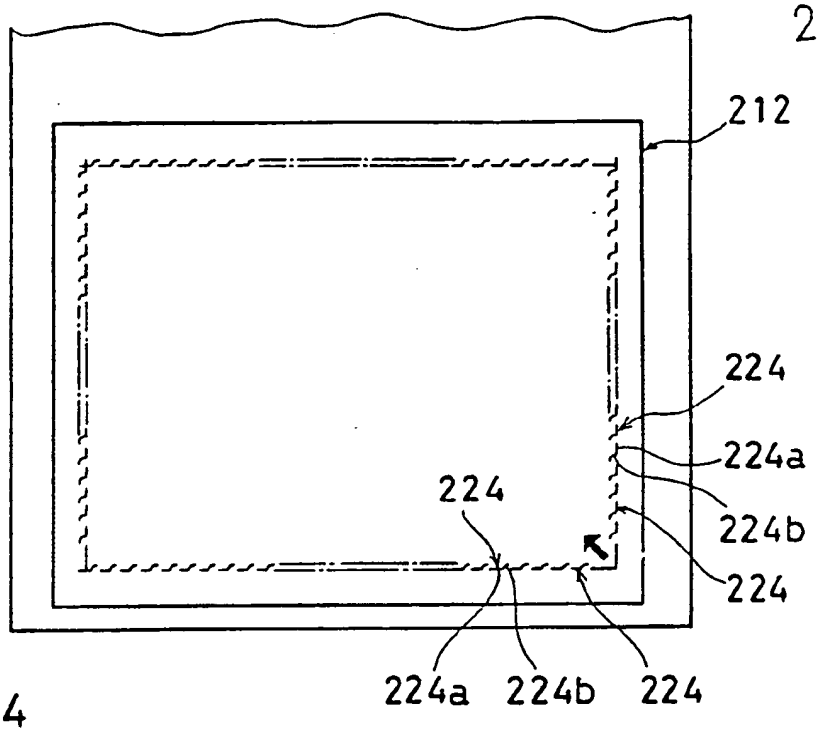
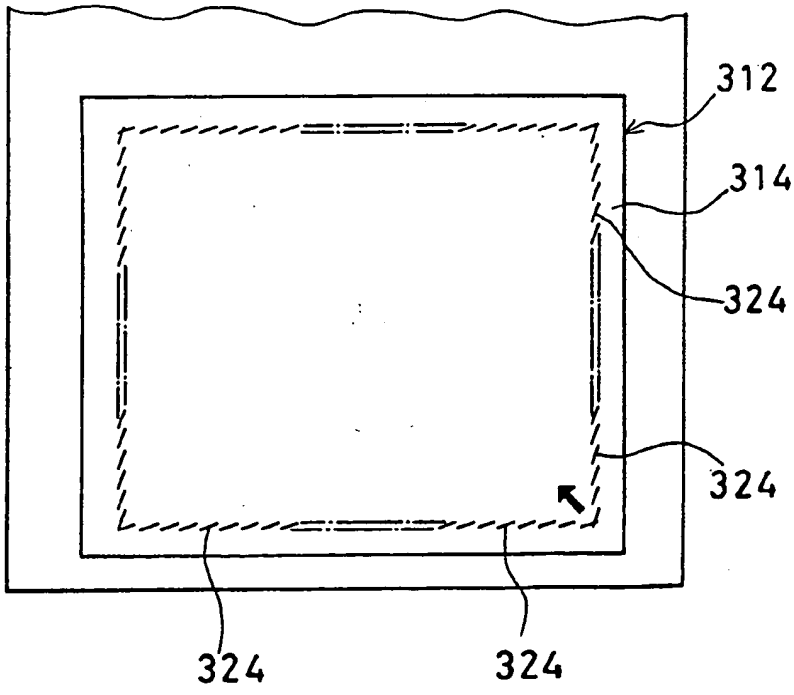


FIG.14



SPECIFICATION

2209993

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

POSTCARD AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a special kind of post-card with a part thereof covered to be invisible, more particularly to a post-card with the part wherein secret information is shown is kept covered during mailing and the due recipient can see it on his own discretion, and a method of manufacturing it.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART

Recently mails containing secret information such as the balance of a person's bank deposit has been increasing. It has, therefore, been desired to develop a kind of post-card, a part of which containing secret information is kept covered during mailing, and the due recipient can see it without difficulty. And, as seen from the text of Japanese Utility Model Publication NO.3789/'79, a kind of post card, of which a part, for instance, a marked part is kept covered until it is uncovered by the due recipient to see the secret information hidden thereunder.

To make it partly uncoverable, however, as seen from the text of the aforementioned Japanese Utility Model

Publication No. 3789/'79, the entire surface of a covering paper has to be coated with a drying paste to form an adhesive film and the postcard material is partly, for instance, in the marked part has to be coated with a silicone release agent or the like so that the covering paper can be peeld off partly. Thus, since the covering paper has to be coated with a drying paste and the postcard material has to be partly treated with a release agent such as one based on silicone, the construction of such post-card becomes inevitably complicated and the increased number of the manufacturing steps results in an increased manufacturing cost.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, it is a principal object of the present invention to provide a postcard, in which surface treatment of the postcard material is not required any only by post-processing by pressing and so on of the sticking material for covering a secret information, a part which is possible to be peeld off partly and a part which is adhered completely are divided, in which the secret imformation is covered during mailing by post and the due recipient can see the secret information easily, and a manufacturing method thereof.

A first invention involved relates to a kind of postcard composed of a postcard material and a sticking material to cover at least a part thereof, the sticking material

comprising a base material opaque at least partly, an inter-layer peel ply formed on the principal surface of the base material, a synthetic resin layer formed on the principal surface of an inter-layer peel ply with at least part thereof being transparent and an adhesive layer formed on the principal surface of the synthetic resin layer and being transparent in the part corresponding to the transparent part of the synthetic resin layer.

A second invention involved relates to a method of manufacturing such post-card consisting of a step of printing or coating picture lines on a postcard material, a process of manufacturing a sticking material comprising steps (A) to (E), namely (A) a step of preparing a base material opaque at least partly, (B) a step of preparing a synthetic resin film or sheet for forming a synthetic resin layer transparent at least partly, (C) a step of forming on one principal surface of the synthetic resin film or sheet an adhesive layer transparent in the part corresponding to the transparent part of the synthetic resin film or sheet,(D) a step of printing or coating an inter-layer release agent on one principal surface of the base material or the synthetic resin film or sheet and (E) a step of forming an inter-layer peel ply between the base material and the synthetic resin layer formed of the synthetic resin film or sheet by laminating the synthetic resin film or

sheet on the base material using the inter-layer release agent. and a step of sticking the sticking material with its adhesive layer side to the picture lines part of the postcard material.

A third invention involved relates to another method of manufacturing such postcard consisting of a step of printing or coating picture lines on a postcard material, a process of manufacturing a sticking material comprising steps (A) to (D), namely (A) a step of preparing a base material opaque at least partly, (B) a step of forming a inter-layer peel ply by printing or coating a release agent on the principal surface of the base material (C) a step of forming a synthetic resin layer transparent at least partly by printing or coating a synthetic resin agent on the principal surface of the inter-layer peel ply and (D) a step of forming an adhesive layer on the surface of the synthetic resin layer, this adhesive layer being transparent in the part corresponding to the transparent part of the synthetic resin layer, and a step of sticking a sticking material with its adhesive layer side to the picture lines part of the postcard material.

According to the present invention, the sticking material has the inter-layer peel ply between the opaque base material and the synthetic resin layer and the aforementioned synthetic resin layer is stuck to the postcard material by means of the adhesive layer, and the base material of the

sticking material can be peeled off with a relative ease as it is stuck to the transparent synthetic resin layer relatively weakly where the inter-layer peel ply is formed, while the synthetic resin layer is kept stuck to the postcard material relatively strongly by the adhesion of the adhesive layer even after the base material of the sticking material is peeled off.

According to the present invention, the synthetic resin layer is stuck to the postcard material by means of the adhesive layer relatively strongly, while the base material of the sticking material is stuck to the synthetic resin layer by means of the inter-layer peel ply relatively weakly and is stuck to the postcard material still weaker, hence the base material of the sticking material can be peeled off the postcard material, that is, the synthetic resin layer formed thereon. After the base material of the sticking material has been peeled off the postcard material, the secret information on the principal surface of the postcard material can be seen through the transparent part of the synthetic resin layer.

Moreover, by sticking the sticking material without processing the postcard material, a postcard, which can be divided into the base material stuck weakly on the postcard material and the synthetic resin layer stuck completely, can be obtained, and the user is required only to do a simple

pasting work, this making this type of postcard widely applicable.

Furthermore,the postcard is just needed to be processed to the sticking material in manufacturing and the postcard material is not necessary to be processed, so that its manufacturing process as well as an adhesion machine of a sticking material can be simplified with ease for the user.

The aforementioned objects and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from reading of the detailed description of the embodiments given below under reference to the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1A and FIG. 1B are perspective views showing an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2A and FIG. 2B are sectional views showing the above embodiment.

FIG. 3 is an illustrative view showing an example of the method of manufacturing the embodiment shown in FIG. 1.

FIG. 4 and FIG. 5 are views showing a variation of the aforementioned embodiment, of which FIG. 4 is a sectional view and FIG. 5 is a partly broken-out perspective view.

FIG. 6 and FIG. 7 are illustrative views showing an example of the manufacturing method for the embodiment shown in FIG. 4.

FIG. 8A and FIG. 8B are perspective views showing another embodiment, and FIG. 9A and FIG. 9B are sectional views of the embodiment illustrated in fig. 8A.

FIG. 10 is a sectional view showing a variation of the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 9A, and FIG. 11 is an illustrative view showing the method of manufacturing it.

FIG. 12 is a view showing another variation thereof.

FIG. 13 is a partially plan view showing a separate embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 14 is a partially plan view showing a modification of the embodiment of FIG. 13.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 1A and FIG. 1B are perspective views showing a postcard embodying the present invention.

FIG. 2A and FIG. 2B are sectional views of the aforementioned embodiment.

This postcard includes a postcard material 10 of the official postcard size and a sticking material 12 stuck to a part of postcard material 10.

This sticking material 12 includes a base material 14 formed of an opaque material.

This base material 14 is formed of a relatively soft material such as paper or a synthetic resin film.

This base material 14, which is required to be opaque and have a suppressiveness, has to be made capable of

covering by making it opaque by, for instance, printing it with a silver ink or the like to thereby form a suppression layer or laminating it with a film or foil having suppressiveness such as aluminum foil by the use of an adhesive or the like.

The surface of the suppression layer has formed therein a lottery part 16 wherein are shown letters such as "WINNING" or "BLANK".

The principal surface of the lottery part 16 of the aforementioned base material 14 is printed or coated with a wax and there is formed an inter-layer peel ply 18, a part of which is made transparent so that the lottery part 16 can be seen through.

As the wax forming this inter-layer peel ply 18 may be used any of the aminal, vegetable, mineral and petroleum-derived waxes, for instance, natural waxes such as paraffin wax, microcrystalline wax or petrolatum wax. Besides, also usable are, among others, Fischer tropush wax and its derivatives, synthetic hydrocarbons such as low-molecular polyethylene and its derivatives, modified waxes such as montan wax derivatives, paraffin wax derivatives and microcrystalline wax derivatives, aliphatic alcohols and acids such as cetyl alcohol and stearic acid, fatty acid esters such us glyceryl stearate and polyethylene glycol stearate, hydrogenated waxes such as glyceride, castor wax

and opal wax, synthetic ketone amine amides such as armor wax and acra wax and, further, chlorinated bydrocarbons, synthetic aminal waxes, synthetic waxes such as alpha-olefin wax are as well usable. It is also possible to use mixed waxes containing any of the aforementioned waxes.

On one principal surface of the inter-layer peel ply 18, there is formed a synthetic resin layer 20 transparent at least partly.

This synthetic resin layer 20 is formed by laminating a synthetic resin film or sheet on the base material 14 by the use of the adhesion of the aforementioned inter-layer peel ply 18 or by printing or coating a synthetic resin dissolved in a solvent or dispersed in water.

On the principal surface of the aforementioned synthetic resin layer 20, an adhesive layer 22 is formed by printing or coating an adhesive of the pressure sensitive type.

As the synthetic resin used for forming the aforementioned synthetic resin layer 20 may be used any of polyethylene, ethylene-ethylacrylate copolymer resin, ethylene-acrylic acid copolymer resin, ethylene-methyl acrylate copolymer resin, ethylene-methylmethacrylate copolymer resin, ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer resin, ionomer resin, polymethyl pentene resin, ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer resin, vinylidene chloride resin, vinyl chloride-vinyl acetate copolymer resin,

polyamide resin, styrene-acrylic acid copolymer resin, polystyrene resin, polyacrylic acid copolymer resin, polyester resin, and polyurethane resin. For printing or coating with any thereof, the selected synthetic resin may be dissolved in a proper solvent or dispersed in water.

The lottery part 16 may be formed either on the surface of the aforementioned synthetic resin layer 20 or on the surface of the postcard material 10 to be visible through the synthetic resin layer 20. For that, however, the synthetic resin layer 20 and the adhesive layer 22 have to be made transparent or translucent. The lottery part 16 may as well be formed on the surface of the inter-layer peel ply 18, and in this case the inter-layer peel ply 18 need not be transparent or translucent.

Now, the method of manufacturing a postcard of this kind is described.

First to be described is the method of manufacturing the sticking material, referring mainly to FIG. 3.

To be prepared first is a piece of paper as material of the base material 14 and, if the suppressiveness of the paper is insufficient, either principal surface thereof is solid-printed with a silver ink by a known printing method such as offset printing or by coating to thereby form a suppression layer. Alternatively, for formation of this suppression layer, an aluminum foil may be stuck to the principal surface

of the paper using, for instance, an adhesive of pressure-sensitive type and this paper-aluminum foil laminate may be used as base material 14. On the surface of this suppression layer the lottery part 16 is to be formed by printing or coating.

Meanwhile, a laminate 26 is to be prepared by laminating the synthetic resin film or sheet used for forming the synthetic resin layer 20 on the surface of a laminate with an adhesive layer 22 preformed thereon by application of an adhesive of pressure sensitive type on the principal surface of a release sheet 24 coated with a release agent.

To the principal surface of this adhesive layer 22, the aforementioned release sheet 24 which plays a role of continuously supporting the sticking material 12 divided into a plurality of parts, at the same time covering and protecting the adhesive layer 22, is temporarily stuck so that by the action of the release agent layer formed on the principal surface of the release sheet 24, the adhesive layer 22 can be easily peeled off the release sheet 24.

This laminate 26 in a rolled form is mounted on the holding roller 32 of a manufacturing equipment 30 for the sticking material. Meanwhile, the base material 14 also in a rolled form, is mounted on the holding roller 34 of the same equipment 30.

Then, one end of the rolled-up laminate 26 is pulled out and led into the coating apparatus 36.

This coating apparatus 36 is for coating the surface of the synthetic resin layer 20 with an inter-layer release agent such as wax agent 18a for formation of the inter-layer peel ply thereon, comprising two rollers 38a and 38b and also a storage vessel 40 and serves to apply by coating the heated and molten inter-layer release agent 18a with the rollers 38a and 38b being revolved.

As this coating apparatus 36, a coating machine such as gravure roll coater or reverse roll coater may be used as well as an well-known printing machine such as offset printing machine or screen printing machine.

Thus, the laminate 26 coated with the inter-layer release agent 18a is led into a laminating machine 42 for further lamination with the base material 14 as shown in FIG. 3.

The laminating machine 42 is for laminating a paper 14a to serve as the base material 14 on the surface of the inter-layer release agent 18a on the laminate 26, is arranged on the path for the laminate 26, and includes a holding roller 34 for holding the base material 14 in roll form.

This paper 14a has one end pulled out and this is introduced between the roller 44a and the opposing roller

44b. Then, the laminate 26 coated with the inter-layer release agent 18a is being led between the rollers 44a and 44b, hence between these rollers 44a and 44b the paper 14a is laid on the laminate 26 with the inter-layer release agent 18a in between. Thus, the laminate 26 with the paper 14a to serve as the base material 14 laid thereon is led through a cooler 46 or cooling roller (not shown).

The cooler 46 is for cooling the inter-layer release agent 18a applied between the laminate 26 and the paper 14a.

In the cooler 46, the inter-layer release agent 18a sandwiched between the laminate 26 and the paper 14a is cooled and solidified to form the inter-layer peel ply 18.

As mentioned above, the laminate further laminated with the base material 14 with the inter-layer peel ply 18 in between is led through a stamping unit 48. The stamping unit 48 includes the so-called die cutter, and by this die cutter proper cuts are made in the base material 14, inter-layer peel ply 18, synthetic resin layer 20 and adhesive layer 22. The stamping unit 48 may as well be of the type having an edged roll, the so-called die roll.

The laminate 26 further laminated with the base material 14 et cetera with cuts made therein is divided as it passes over a roller 50 between necessary and unnecessary parts and the unnecessary parts are wound round a waste take-up roller 52, while the sticking material 12 (neseccary parts)

temporarily stuck to the release sheet 24 is wound round a take-up roller 54.

Instead of the stamping unit 48 and the take-up roller 54, a cut-making unit may as well be used. This cut-making unit includes a cutting blade for making cuts in the base material 14, inter-layer peel ply 18, synthetic resin layer 20 and adhesive layer 22 so as to divide the sticking material 12 into a plurality of parts.

Then, the sticking material 12 in roll form is unrolled to pass through a sticking material sticking unit in which it is stuck to the postcard material 10. The postcard material 10 may then be precut to the official postcard size or the form of a continuous strip perforated properly. The secret information in letters or the like to be concealed by this sticking material 12 such as the balance of a person's bank deposit is naturally has to be pre-printed, for example, near the bottom of its surface.

For sticking the sticking material 12 to the postcard, for example, near its bottom, first the postcard material 10 is sent in successively. And, the rolled-up sticking material 12 is unrolled to be led to a release plate. By the use of the release plate, the sticking material 12 and release sheet 24 are separated. The sticking material 12 is sticked on the surface of the postcard material 10 by pressing the surface of the postcard material

10 after laying the sticking material 12 on top of the postcard material 10.

When the postcard material 10 and the sticking material 12 are pressed together, the sticking material 12 is stuck strongly to the postcard material 10 by means of the synthetic resin layer 20, while the base material 14 is stuck weakly because of the presence of the inter-layer peel ply 18. Hence, as shown in FIG. 1B and FIG. 2B, the base material 14 of the sticking material 12 can be peeled off the postcard material 10 with a relative ease.

As examples of the base material 14 of the sticking material 12 there can be cited, besides the one shown in the aforementioned embodiment, synthetic paper, films of cellophane, polyethylene, polyester and the like or a aluminum foil et cetera, but it is advisable to choose one relatively soft lest this sticking material 12 stuck to the postcard material 10 should accidentally come off the postcard material 10 against the adhesion of the inter-layer peel ply 18.

When as the base material 14 what is excellent in suppressiveness such as aluminum foil has been selected, formation of a suppression layer such as in the aforementioned embodiment may be dispensed with.

Although in the aforementioned embodiment continuous paper in roll form was selected as the base material 14, it

may as well be separated in sheet form.

The surface of the base material 14 may be printed in a mode suited for the postcard material 10, and when the base material 14, inter-layer peel ply 18 and synthetic resin layer 20 are formed to be continuous, marks for checking the feeding pitch of the sticking material 12 such as black arrows may be printed as shown in FIG. 1A.

FIG. 4 is a view showing a postcard as a variation of the aforementioned embodiment.

As shown in FIG. 4, this postcard includes a postcard material 60 and a sticking material 62 stuck to the surface of the postcard material 60, and the sticking material 62 includes a base material 64, lottery part 66, inter-layer peel ply 68, transparent synthetic resin layer 70 and adhesive layer 72.

In this sticking material 62, a part of the synthetic resin layer 70 is spotly stuck directly to the base material 64, as shown in FIG. 5.

Hence, where the inter-layer peel ply 68 is not formed, the base material 64 is stuck to the synthetic resin layer 70 relatively strongly so that there is little risk of the base material 64 being accidentally peeled off the synthetic resin layer 70 even where the inter-layer peel ply 68 is present.

Now, described below is the method of manufacturing the sticking material 62 illustrated in FIG. 4, referring mainly

to FIG. 6 and FIG. 7.

FIG. 6 is an illustrative view showing an example of manufacturing equipment for a laminate 76 formed by laminating the base material 64, inter-layer peel ply 68 and synthetic resin layer 70.

The illustrated manufacturing equipment 80 for this laminate 76 includes a holding roller 82 for holding the strip-like base material 64 in roll form. The base material 64 held by the holding roller 82 has one end thereof pulled out and this end is led into an inter-layer release agent coating unit 84.

This inter-layer release agent coating unit 84 is for printing or coating the surface of the base material 64 with an inter-layer release agent 68a such as wax, and includes two rollers 86a and 86b.

The inter-layer release agent 68a is applied to the roller 86a. Hence, when the rollers 86a and 86b are revolved, the surface of the base material 64 being led therebetween is printed or coated with the inter-layer release agent 68a except for spots.

As the inter-layer release agent coating unit 84 may as well be used a coating machine of some other type or a known printing machine such as offset printing machine or screen printing machine.

The base material 64 printed or coated with this inter-

layer release agent 68a is then led through a drying unit 88 for solidification of the inter-layer release agent 68a.

The laminate with the inter-layer release agent 68a solidified on its surface in the drying unit 88 is then led through a synthetic resin coating unit 90 for formation of a transparent synthetic resin layer 70 thereon.

In this synthetic resin coating unit 90, the surface of the inter-layer peel ply 68 of a proper thickness formed by solidification of the aforementioned inter-layer release agent 68a is printed or coated with a synthetic resin agent 70a for formation of a synthetic resin layer 70 thereon.

The laminate 76 coated with the synthetic resin agent 70a in this synthetic resin coating unit is properly wound up in roll form after solidification of the synthetic resin agent 70a.

And the laminate 76 wound up in roll form as shown in FIG. 7 is then loaded in a laminating unit 94 for formation of an adhesive layer 72.

In this laminating unit 94 a release sheet 74 is loaded in roll form, one end thereof is pulled out and is led into an adhesive coating unit 96 for having the surface of the release sheet 74 printed or coated with an adhesive 72a such as an adhesive of the pressure sensitive type.

The adhesive coating unit 96 includes two rollers 98a

and 98b.

The roller 98b has its lower part kept dipped in the adhesive 72a in the bottom portion of a pan 98c. Hence when the rollers 98a and 98b are revolved, the surface of the release sheet 74 is printed or coated with the adhesive 72a. As this adhesive coating unit 96 may as well be used a coating machine of some other type or a printing machine of a known type such as offset printing machine or screen printing machine.

The release sheet 74 thus printed or coated with the adhesive 72a is then led through a drying unit 100 including, for example, a heater. In the drying unit 100, the adhesive 72a applied to the surface of the release sheet 74 by printing or coating is dried to form the adhesive layer 72. The release sheet 74 with the adhesive layer 72 formed thereon is led into a laminating unit 102.

Meanwhile, the aforementioned laminate 76 is held in roll form on a separate holding roller 104, one end thereof is pulled out and this end is led into the laminating unit 102. The laminating unit 102 includes two rollers 106a and 106b. Between these two rollers 106a and 106b, the laminate of the release sheet 74 and the adhesive layer 72 is passed through together with the laminate 76 so that the synthetic resin layer 70 of the laminate 76 is stuck to and laminated on the adhesive layer 72. When these rollers 106a and 106b

are revolved, the laminate of the adhesive layer 72 et cetra and the synthetic resin layer 70 of the laminate 76 passing therethrough are stuck together and the sticking material 62 is formed thereby.

The sticking material 62 formed is wound round a take-up roller 110 to be kept in roll form.

When this is to be used, the roll may be unrolled and stamped in the desired shape as described above.

FIG. 8A and FIG. 8B are perspective views showing another embodiment, and FIG. 9A and FIG. 9B are sectional views of the embodiment shown in FIG. 8A.

FIG. 8A and FIG.9A are views showing the original state, and FIG. 8B and FIG. 9B are views showing the released state.

In this embodiment, cuts 128a and 128b are made in a sticking material 122 stuck to the postcard material 120, where the inter-layer peel ply 126 is formed, continuously from one end to the other end in parallel and in relative proximity in the vicinity of the left end of a base material 124 so as to allow parting of the base material 124. Moreover, the base material 124 between the cuts 128a and 128b is formed sunken to be easily caught by a finger or nail so that the base material 124 between the cuts 128a and 128b can be parted with ease. Alternatively, a projection may be provided at the fore end of the base material 124 between the cuts 128a and 128b to facilitate

picking instead of the aforementioned sinking.

Also, in the vicinity of right edge, a cut 132 for parting is provided so that the sticking material 122 peeled off the postcard material 120 can be parted from the part securely stuck by means of the synthetic resin layer 130. In this embodiment a lottery part 136 is provided on the postcard material side 120 to be visible through the synthetic resin layer 130.

These cuts 128a and 128b as well as the cut 132 for parting are formed, when the base material 124 is made of paper, along the fiber direction so that the base material 124 can be parted with a relative ease. By the way, in this embodiment, the synthetic resin layer 130 is directly stuck in the vicinities of both edges of the base material 124 lest it should be peeled off accidentally.

FIG. 10 is a sectional view showing another variation of the embodiment shown in FIG. 9A, and FIG. 11 is an illustrative view showing the method of manufacturing it.

In this variation, a base material 140 and a synthetic resin layer 142 are strongly stuck together with an adhesive layer 142 are strongly stuck together with an adhesive layer 144 in between.

As seen from FIG. 11, the method of manufacturing the postcard of this variation consists of steps of first forming an adhesive layer 144 on the surface of the

base material 140 by printing or coating with an adhesive of the pressure sensitive type, then peeling off a release paper 146 and having it laminated on the surface of the synthetic resin layer 142.

Fig. 12 is a view showing still another variation, in which a base material 150 and an adhesive layer 152 are directly stuck together to preclude accidental peeling off of the base material 150.

In each embodiments, the cuts may be formed along all edges of the base material. When the cuts are formed like that, the center portion of the sticking material is peeled off easily. In this case, as shown in FIG. 13, when each cuts are constituted with a linear cut portion and a curvilinear cut portion respectively so as to overlap a part of one cut 224 and a part of the next cut 224 in a direction for peeling the sticking material 212, the center portion of the sticking material 212 can be peeled off easily. In addition, for peeling off the center portion of the sticking material easily, as shown in FIG. 14, for example, each linear cuts 324 may be formed along edges of the base material 314 on a slant so as to overlap a part of one cut 324 and a part of the next cut 324 in a direction for peeling off the sticking material 312.

The present invention, preferred embodiments thereof, having thus been described and illustrated in detail, it is

to be understood that such description and illustration made above are solely for the purpose of explanation and are by no means limitation, and the spirit and scope of the resent invention is limited only by the appended claims.

CLAIMS

1. A postcard comprising:

a right-sized postcard material; and

a sticking material stuck to said postcard material to cover at least a part thereof;

said sticking material comprising, in turn:

a base material opaque at least partly;

an inter-layer peel ply formed on the principal surface of said base material;

a synthetic resin layer formed on the principal surface of said inter-layer peel ply, being transparent at least partly; and

an adhesive layer formed on the principal surface of said synthetic resin layer, being transparent in the part corresponding to the transparent part of said synthetic resin layer.

2. A postcard in accordance with claim 1, wherein said sticking material is stuck to cover the part of the surface of said postcard material where secret information is shown.

3. A postcard in accordance with claim 1, wherein said base material has a suppression layer formed on the principal furface of the side on which said inter-layer peel ply is formed.

4. A postcard in accordance with claim 1, wherein said inter-layer peel ply is formed by printing or coating

with a wax.

5. A method of manufacturing a postcard consisting of:

a step of printing or coating picture lines;

a process of manufacturing a sticking material comprising the following steps (A) to (E), namely

(A) a step of preparing a base material opaque at least partly;

(B) a step of preparing a synthetic resin film or sheet for forming a synthetic resin layer transparent at least partly;

(C) a step of forming on one principal surface of said synthetic resin film or sheet an adhesive layer transparent in the part corresponding to the transparent part of said synthetic resin film or sheet;

(D) a step of printing or coating an inter-layer release agent on one principal surface of said base material or said synthetic resin film or sheet;

(E) a step of forming an inter-layer peel ply between said base material and said synthetic resin film or sheet by laminating said synthetic resin film or sheet on said base material using said inter-layer release agent; and

a step of sticking said sticking material with its adhesive layer side to the picture lines part of said postcard material.

6. A method of manufacturing a postcard in accordance with claim 5, wherein said picture lines on said postcard material represent secret information printed or coated.

7. A method of manufacturing a postcard in accordance with claim 5, wherein a step of preparing said base material with a suppression layer formed on one principal surface thereof is included.

8. A method of manufacturing a postcard in accordance with claim 5, wherein said inter-layer relase agent is a wax.

9. A method of manufacturing a postcard consisting of:

a step of printing or coating picture lines on a postcard material;

a process of manufacturing a sticking material comprising the following steps (A) to (D), namely

(A) a step of preparing a base material opaque at least partly;

(B) a step of forming an inter-layer peel ply by printing or coating a inter-layer release agent on the principapl surface of said base material;

(C) a step of forming a synthetic resin layer transparent at least partly by printing or coating a synthetic resin agent on the principal surface of said

inner-layer peel ply;

(D) a step of forming an adhesive layer on the surface of said synthetic resin layer said adhesive layer being transparent in the part corresponding to the transparent part of said synthetic resin layer; and

a step of sticking said sticking material with said adhesive layer side to said picture lines part of said postcard material.

10. A method of manufacturing a postcard in accordance with claim 9, wherein said picture lines on said postcard material are formed by printing or coating a secret information.

11. A method of manufacturing a postcard in accordance with claim 9, wherein a step of preparing said base material with a supression layer formed on one principal surface thereof.

12 A method of manufacturing a postcard in accordance with claim 9, wherein said inter-layer release agent is a wax.

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